



**HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE OF CONNECTICUT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, September 24, 2012  
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm  
Bureau of Enterprise Systems and Technology  
East Hartford, CT**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Commissioner Jewel Mullen (Chair), Daniel Carmody (Secretary), Ellen Andrews, Kevin Carr (phone), Steve Casey, Demian Fontanella (representing Victoria Veltri), Mark Heuschkel (representing Commissioner Bremby), Brenda Kelley, John Lynch (phone), Angela Mattie, Bettye Jo Pakulis (representing Lt.Gov. Nancy Wyman), Barbara Parks Wolf

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ronald Buckman, John Gadea, Mark Masselli, Steven Thornquist

**HITE-CT & HIT Coordinator:** John DeStefano (Chief Technology Officer); Christine Kraus (Administrative Project Officer), Lori Reed-Fourquet (HITE-CT Consultant- phone), Scott Murphy (Shipman & Goodwin), Minakshi Tikoo (HIT Coordinator)

**STATE AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES:** Marianne Horn (DPH), Mark Raymond (DAS-BEST), Karen Buffkin (OPM), Joan Soulsby (OPM)

**PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES:** Thomas Agresta (UCHC), Scott Cleary (SMC Partners), Craig Schmechel (CMHA), Peter Armstrong (HITE-CT intern), Louise Getman (HITE-CT intern)

**CALL TO ORDER**

M. Horn recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:38PM.

J. Mullen highlighted recent accomplishments and transitions. She noted that all ONC deadlines have been met and our Strategic and Operations Plan update and PIN reports have been approved. J. Mullen said she is optimistic about the future and acknowledged everyone's hard work. She thanked J. DeStefano and C. Kraus for their efforts toward a smooth transition since CEO Gilbertson left on 8/31/12 and Meg Hooper retiring on 6/1/12. M. Tikoo has taken the lead as the new HIT Coordinator, and is actively reaching out to state agencies and stakeholders. J. Soulsby and K. Buffkin from OPM have been regularly attending the Board meetings with their colleague B. Parks Wolf, which has been very helpful. J. Mullen also noted her appreciation for B. Pakulis for ensuring the Lieutenant Governor has been part of many of her communications.

J. Mullen thanked the two Board members who recently stepped down—T. Agresta and P. Courtway. She commended T. Agresta for his commitment and work on the Board and his efforts toward making HIE happen in the state. T. Agresta has been part of the HIE work from its inception. He will continue his work with DSS to help them move their EHR implementation program forward and on other activities to advance health care in the state. J. Mullen noted that P. Courtway resigned this summer, but agreed to continue his HITE-CT Board work even after leaving his Danbury Hospital CIO position.

He played an integral role in the Axway negotiations and moving HIE forward.

M. Horn will facilitate the meeting.

#### **HITE-CT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES – August 20, 2012**

**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded by S. Casey and D. Carmody, respectively, to approve the minutes. All in favor. **Motion passed.** M. Heuschkel abstained.

#### **HITE-CT BOARD BUSINESS**

##### **Treasurer's Report**

C. Kraus provided the current financial status of HITE-CT. She noted that financial reporting going forward would be an "end-of-month" report for the month prior to the Board meeting.

For current status as of 8/31/12: total assets = \$490,593.58 (\$198,343.58 in bank account and \$292,250.00 in Accounts Receivable). HITE-CT's current liabilities are \$2,548,680.25 leaving a net loss of \$2,058,086.67. C. Kraus explained that the liabilities include two recent Axway invoices totaling \$1,974,493.

The Revenue and Expense Report included all transactions from 7/1/11 to 8/31/12. D. Carmody asked that the report be run based on the fiscal year (7/1/12) going forward. C. Kraus will rerun the report and distribute it to the Board. The Accounts Payable will also include specific breakdowns by account. The Board requested that a budget sheet be created to reflect projected and actual costs.

##### **Board Vacancies and Officer Positions**

J. Mullen sent the Speaker of the House, Christopher Donovan, a letter about the open positions on the HITE-CT Board. She reported that both J. DeStefano and M. Tikoo sent her Board recommendations and she encouraged the Board members to do the same. B. Pakulis sits on a Committee that talks about the Governor's appointments and she offered to share any Board recommendations. J. Mullen also noted that she will talk to the two Board members whose terms end 9/30/12 about their interest in serving a second term. M. Horn noted that the HITE-CT by-laws require the appointment of a Vice Chair and the election of officers. She suggested that this business be postponed to a future meeting given the current transition and open Board memberships. Any recommended changes to the Board constituency (e.g., number of members and representation) should be sent to J. Mullen, as they could require a statutory change and a proposal would need to be submitted to OPM. J. Mullen confirmed that she has treasury authority, given the open Treasurer position.

#### **HITE-CT Agency Business**

##### **CTO Report**

J. DeStefano reported that the two pilot sites (i.e., CHC and CHMA) should have Direct messaging activated through the Axway platform by 9/30/12 to meet the ONC PIN target. Other HITE-CT outreach includes some VNA organizations and Quest Diagnostics. A list of the 100+ providers who will be signed up for Direct through CHC will be provided at the next Board meeting. When asked by J. Mullen about our sense of overall progress, given our immediate focus on Direct, J. DeStefano noted that there has been both concessions and progress. HITE-CT is working with the providers to demonstrate valuable use cases. At this point, there is no charge for the Direct services.

J. DeStefano highlighted other states' experiences with Direct and how the environment is changing. Arkansas has been very successful, but the state legislated that providers of state employees must use Direct for pre-authorization. Texas continues to struggle with its Direct initiative. There is concern

among providers that Direct isn't the most efficient use of health information exchange. J. DeStefano also mentioned that several EHR vendors are starting to be their own health information service provider (HISP) (e.g., Cerner and Quest). This would be a reason to consider a HISP marketplace model with a trust framework, which would guarantee a base level of security and operational similarities by the HISP vendors.

J. Mullen mentioned that our decision to pursue Direct was encouraged by the ONC, and that many other states are following the same direction. As the Commissioner of Public Health she noted several providers have asked when Public Health applications for Stage One meaningful use will be available. The HIT Coordinator, M. Tikoo, is working with DPH and DSS to help enable health information exchange.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **Executive Committee (J. Mullen)**

The Committee met to continue discussion about the Axway contract, which will be discussed in the Executive Session.

### **Business & Operations (K.Carr)**

K. Carr continues his outreach for a co-chair and asked for nominations.

### **Finance (D. Carmody)**

No update. D. Carmody emphasized the importance of setting a future direction beyond Direct.

### **Legal and Policy (J. Lynch)**

The Committee met on 9/5/12 and is working on workflow around consent—what consent is needed, and how to document it in the Direct model. P. Armstrong (HITE-CT intern) will document some of the current workflows in different places (e.g., a doctor's office) and how consent is or isn't captured.

### **SPECIAL POPULATIONS (B. Kelley)**

No update

### **TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE (J. DeStefano)**

The Committee is working on the Direct trust framework documents, which will be submitted to the Board for review and approval.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PATIENT PRIVACY AND SECURITY (D. Fontanella)**

The Committee is gathering research on a variety of issues related to patient privacy and security.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 1-200(6)(B), to discuss communications privileged by attorney-client relationship relating to the strategy and negotiations with respect to the Axway contract.

**MOTION** At 5:15 p.m. a motion was made and seconded by S. Casey and A. Mattie, respectively, to move into Executive Session to discuss attorney-client privileged communications relating to the strategy and negotiations with respect to the Axway contract. T. Agresta, M. Horn, S. Murphy, K. Buffkin, M. Raymond, J. Soulsby, J. DeStefano, C. Kraus, M. Tikoo, and L. Fourquet, were invited to attend. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

**Executive Session ended at 6:30.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** A motion was made and seconded by D. Carmody and S. Casey, respectively, to adjourn. All in favor. **Motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.

***SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS***

*October 15, 2012*